Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 18 Nov 2020 until 23:59 on Thursday 19 Nov 2020

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 17 Nov 2020 at 11:30 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for a significant change to conditions in the hills through Wednesday and Thursday as colder air sets in. Also high for a brief return to milder/wetter conditions on Friday but some uncertainty in detail.

Headline for Wednesday 18 Nov 2020: Temperatures falling markedly allowing heavy rain to turn to snow.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 18 Nov 2020

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** Medium Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Medium Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** Medium Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Sleet	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability							
>95%	>95%	80%	60%	60%	60%	60%	80%

Forecast for Wednesday 18 Nov 2020

Weather: Heavy and persistent rain continues across all ranges through the early hours. Heavy rain will gradually turn more sporadic through morning with a few more sheltered eastern parts turning dry while rain remains focussed along the west coast. A drier, brighter afternoon looks likely but this short lived as rain sets in from the north and west again, this turning increasingly to snow above 700m through evening, then 400m by midnight.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 50% for a few hours through afternoon as rain abates and skies tend to clear, otherwise 10 % at best with cloud generally extensive above 500-700m.

Visibility: Widely limited to less than a kilometre above modest height as rain, cloud and snow hamper visibility. Improving briefly through afternoon though with some distant views on offer.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Forecast for Wednesday 18 Nov 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	37/47 S	44/57 S	39/51 SW	26/36 SW	32/43 SW	32/44 SW	27/37 SW	25/37 N	36/50 N
900	33/43 S	41/53 S	36/48 SW	25/34 SW	31/42 SW	30/42 SW	26/36 SW	24/36 N	34/49 N
600	22/32 S	29/42 S	25/38 SW	18/27 SW	22/34 SW	21/34 SW	19/30 SW	19/31 N	27/42 N
300	5/28 S	8/40 S	7/36 SW	7/27 SW	10/33 SW	9/32 SW	9/28 SW	11/33 N	14/42 N
Glen	11/27 S	18/39 S	15/33 S	9/22 SW	15/31 SW	16/33 SW	13/27 SW	19/38 N	20/43 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	7/1	7/0	6/0	5/-0	2/-5	-1/-9	0/-7	-0/-8	-3/-12
900	7/2	7/1	7/1	6/0	3/-4	0/-8	1/-6	0/-7	-2/-11
600	9/5	9/5	9/5	8/4	5/-0	3/-3	3/-2	2/-3	-0/-8
300	10/9	11/10	11/10	9/8	7/4	5/2	5/2	4/0	2/-3
Glen	13/11	13/10	13/10	11/9	9/6	8/4	8/4	7/3	5/0
Freezing Level*	2400m	2400m	2200m	1900m	1300m	900m	1000m	900m	600m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Ground conditions will be widely sodden due to recent and ongoing rainfall with small watercourses in spate. A marked drop in temperatures through the day with winter conditions setting in across all ranges through afternoon.

Forecast for Thursday 19 Nov 2020

Weather: Bitterly cold with scattered snow showers to start the day, these bringing a light cover above around 400m roughly northwards of Torridon before fading through afternoon. Away from these showers, bright and often sunny conditions expected with increasingly light winds. Rain/hill snow reaching the west coast by midnight.

Maximum wind: Northwest 25-30 gusting 40mph, easing to 10-15mph through afternoon then backing southerly through evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 60% increasing 90% with the bulk of low cloud confined to showers, but these bringing cloud briefly down to 300m.

Visibility: Very limited during passing snow showers, likely down to less than 100m at times, but excellent away from these.

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 2C rising to plus 2C.
At 800m: Minus 4C.
Freezing level: 200-400m.

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